

# Brethren Evangelist

"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life."—Jesus

VOLUME XX

ASHLAND, O., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1898

No. 39

## Editorial

### Changes in the Paper

Beginning with next week there will be a few changes in the paper, which we trust will be in the way of improvement. It is our purpose to make the EVANGELIST worthy of a place in every Brethren home in the brotherhood.

### Our Motto

Our motto for the year is, "The EVANGELIST in every home in the brotherhood." To accomplish this we ask the co-operation of all our readers. To make the paper worthy of a place in every home, and to place it into every home, are two things which we hope the year will bring about.

### Our Heritage

"All things are yours," but we are in our minority, we are yet under tutors and governors, and have not entered into our inheritance. And like some heirs of earthly estates, we are sometimes impatient of the delay. We are unwilling to await the Father's time, and so we go about to get the inheritance in our own time and in our own way. With restless energy and feverish haste we seek the "all things" in this world's successes. They are to be found in wealth, in splendid palaces, in heaps of gold, in bright equipage, in rich attire, in delicious fare. We look for them in the halls of political power, the laurels of military fame, seeking everywhere and running after every delusion which hides from us God's time and God's way. "All things are yours;" would you have a sure title to this unlimited possession? Then renounce the all things of the world which are the objects of this mad pursuit of the blind multitude, and enter into the universal heirship by entering into the divine sonship.

### Sunday in Danger

The reverend Dr. Edward Everett Hale may be a very liberal minded man as touching questions of theology, but surely we shall not accuse him of narrow-mindedness when in addressing the young men of Boston on Sunday wheeling he said: "When a club of high minded, moral, and intellectual young men mount their bicycles on Sunday morning, by public appointment, and ride to Newport, they say far more distinctly than any words could say, that so far as they are concerned, they mean that the next generation shall have no Sunday." These words

are from a high authority and should be taken for all that they mean. Unless Sabbath desecration and demoralization be speedily arrested the next generation will be without the blessed heritage of the Christian Sabbath.

### Swift and Slow

How swift is time to the aged; how slow to the young. When all the sensations of life are sweet, when every moment is crowded with delight, when youthful buoyancy and vigor defy adversity and pain, when the rosy hours are incoming argosies of delights, friendly Time lingers along the way, and the years appear to be joy laden ages. But when age comes with its sorrow and burdens, its weariness of the world, its weakness and pain, the years fledge new wings and fly in quick succession into the lost eternities. They hurry us on toward the rest that remaineth, and toward the new life which dawns beyond the darkness like the rising of a brighter day. In this is a great mercy. The temptation and the pain will soon be past. "Yet a little while," and all this sorrowful experience will be but as a dream in the night. Some one has said that in heaven the sensation of time may be like the sensation of distance to an angel's wing, that we shall compass ages as if they were only minutes. This can not be. We will be young there, and every hour, crowded as they will be with inexpressible delights, will be a lingering eternity of blessedness and joy.

### Capacity For Pain

We have unlimited faith in our capacity for prosperity, but let us ask the question: How much capacity for adversity have we, how much capacity for pain? What length or what intensity of suffering can we bear with calmness and patience? This patience, this power of endurance is perhaps the highest test of moral manhood. The weak man becomes petulant and impatient, he complains, he scowls, he exhibits an ugly temper; a very little provocation brews a storm. The strong man preserves the noble mastery of spirit, and constantly rises superior to the stress of pain. Adversity beats against him like sea billows in a storm, but his soul rises upon the crest of every wave, and with each successive triumph draws nearer to the calm haven beyond.

### Barren Preaching

It is not necessarily barren because it is not followed by immediate conversions, but surely if he is a faithful, consecrated preacher and preaches the gospel, not many years

will pass without some visible results in the way of conversions. The editor of an exchange very pertinently remarks: "There is a kind of preaching that has neither converting nor edifying power in it. It is of a semi religious, sensational character. It does not embody those doctrines of the gospel that have power to disturb a guilty conscience, renew the old life, and build up Christian character. The aim of such preaching is to draw, entertain, and awaken curiosity to come again. Consequently if from such efforts you look for fruit, you find nothing but leaves. Such preaching can only be barren." Fellow-ministers, preach the gospel, preach it earnestly, preach it with power, and the secret of doing all this is to get the power first yourself.

### The Atmosphere of Goodness

A thoroughly good man will emit saving influence as a coal of fire emits heat, or as a diamond emits light. Tho he make no sermon the right minded are edified by his company. Tho he utter no word of rebuke the evil are uncomfortable in his presence. Virtue smiles to see him coming, vice to see him go. The fragrance of godliness goes out from him like the odor of spices from Araby the blest. His face may be plain, but the beauty of holiness sits upon it until we look again. He is welcome at the house of joy, for there is gladness in his spirit; but more welcome at the house of sorrow, for there is grace in his heart and comfort in his soul. Patience and humility abide at his house, and the afflicted count him a friend. The desolate think of him and laugh at despair. There is hope while such a man is in the earth. May their generation greatly increase. They are the salt of the earth, the light of the world.

### The Specialist

The vagaries of the specialist are sometimes amusing. A noted mathematician, who made that science his sole study, once said that he thought the study of mathematics would be the principal occupation in heaven. There are those who devote a lifetime and considerable talents to the investigation and classification of a new species of beetle. Numerous instances of total absorption in some ridiculously abstract pursuit could be adduced. It is good and useful to be a specialist if the object is adequate, but it is neither good nor useful to be absurd. We have specialists in religion, in doctrine, in evangelism, and some of them are absurd.